

REMARKS

Initially in the Office Action dated July 2, 2003, the Examiner rejects claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,272,148 (Takagi et al.) in view of Degermark et al.

By the present response, Applicant has amended claims 1, 6, 10-12, 17 and 21-23 to further clarify the invention. Claims 1-30 remain pending in the present application.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

In the Office Action dated July 2, 2003, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takagi et al. in view of Degermark. Applicant reasserts all remarks submitted traversing these rejections that were filed in Applicant's previously-filed response of April 17, 2003. Applicant provides the following additional remarks.

Regarding claims 1, 12 and 23, Applicant submits that neither Takagi et al. nor Degermark et al., taken alone or in any proper combination, disclose, suggest or render obvious the limitations in the combination of each of these claims of, inter alia, modifying, at the first node, the IP header of a full header packet of the stream of packets so that a destination address field of the IP header contains a second node address indicating a location of the second node, the second node address being different than a destination address indicating a location of the destination apparatus, or initiating at the first node header compression of IP headers of packets of the stream of packets subsequent to the full header packet, when the second node receives the full header packet including the modified IP header and the

inserted routing header. The Examiner asserts that Takagi et al. discloses modifying at a first node the IP header of the stream of packets . . . as recited in the claims of the present application in Takagi et al. at col. 35, lines 30-38, col. 26, lines 1-10 and Fig. 4. However, these portions of Takagi et al. merely disclose a tunneling technique where the header of an IP datagram to be transmitted by the radio terminal has an IP address of the router or the gateway device as a destination and an IP datagram is further encapsulated in its IP payload, and an address of the wire terminal is described as a destination in the header of the encapsulated IP datagram. This is not modifying, at a first node, the IP header of a full header packet of the stream of packets so that a destination address field of the IP header contains a second node address indicating a location of the second node, the second node address being different than a destination address indicating a location of the destination apparatus. These portions of Takagi et al. merely disclose the header of an IP datagram containing an IP address of a router and an encapsulated IP datagram containing an address of a wire terminal. These portions of Takagi et al. do not disclose or suggest anything related to modifying an IP header, as recited in the claims of the present application. Takagi et al. merely discloses two destination addresses, one in the header of the IP datagram (e.g. the router) and another in the encapsulated IP datagram (the wire terminal). There is no modification of either of these destination addresses disclosed or suggested in Takagi et al.

The Examiner then later admits that Takagi et al. does not disclose or suggest inserting or modifying at a first node a routing header in the full header packet of the stream of packets, but asserts that this would have been obvious from the disclosure

of Takagi et al. at col. 22, line 66 - col. 23, line 44 and Degermark et al., page 6, paragraph 16-17. However, neither the priority level judgment process disclosed in these portions of Takagi et al., nor the disclosure in Degermark et al. of CID and tunneling disclose or suggest anything related to modifying at a first node a routing header in a full header packet of the stream of packets, including CID information identifying information of the IP header and a destination address indicating a location of the destination apparatus, as recited in the claims of the present application. As has been noted previously, these portions of both references do not disclose or suggest anything related to modifying a header, as recited in the claims of the present application.

Moreover, the Examiner asserts that Takagi et al. discloses initiating header compression of IP headers of packets . . . as recited in the claims of the present application, in Takagi et al. at col. 13, lines 15-26 and Fig. 4. However, these portions of Takagi et al. merely disclose that an IP datagram reassembling unit can convert a compressed TCPIP/IP header into a normal format. This is not initiating at a first node, header compression of IP headers of packets of a stream of packets subsequent to a full header packet, when the second node receives the full header packet including the modified IP header and the inserted routing header. The disclosure in Takagi et al. relates to converting a header in a compressed format into a normal format. In contrast, the claims of the present application relate to initiating compression not converting a header in an already compressed format. Further, these portions of Takagi et al. do not disclose or suggest anything related to initiating

header compression of IP headers of packets of a stream of packets subsequent to the full header packet after the second node has received the full header packet.

In the "Response to Arguments" portion of the Office Action, the Examiner states that modifying the destination address of an IP header "is clearly taught by Takagi" and that "the claim language of modifying merely suggests any sort of modification to the IP address". However, Applicant disagrees with these assertions in that Takagi et al. does not disclose or suggest anything related to modifying and therefore this is not clearly taught. Further, the claim language in the present application does not suggest "any sort of modification" as the Examiner asserts, but clearly states modifying the IP header so that a destination address field contains a second node address where the second node address is different than a destination address of the destination apparatus. As has been noted previously, the tunneling technique disclosed in Takagi et al. discloses two destination addresses, neither of which is modified. For a better understanding of the limitations in the claims of the present application, Applicant refers the Examiner to Figs. 4, 8, 13 and 14 and their associated descriptions.

Regarding claims 2-9, 13-22 and 24-30, Applicant submits that these claims are dependent on one of independent claims 1, 12 and 23 and, therefore, are patentable at least for the same reasons noted regarding these independent claims. For example, none of the cited references disclose or suggest storing information of the IP header of the full header packet as a context in a corresponding relation to CID information at the second node when the second node receives the full header packet including the modified IP header and the modified routing header, or

transmitting each of the subsequent packets including the CID information with a compressed IP header which includes unpredictable IP header information, or decompressing at a second node each of the subsequent packets by using the CID information included in the subsequent packet to referred to the stored context, or transmitting by the second node, the decompressed subsequent packets to a destination apparatus based on a destination address.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that neither Takagi et al. nor Degermark et al., taken alone or in any proper combination, disclose, suggest or render obvious the limitations in the combination of each of claims 1-30 of the present application. Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that claims 1-30 are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of such claims is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (referencing attorney docket no. 0172.37246X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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